

January 25, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft US Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I am writing to give my approval to the agreement between Microsoft and the Department of Justice. This is a reasonable settlement for all and it is time to put this matter behind us and move on. I am somewhat irritated with the entire lawsuit, as the competitors of Microsoft are coming across as a bunch of whiners who, because they are not producing a quality product, cry and run to the government to bail them out instead of doing a better job at their own production and marketing.

Be that as it may, Microsoft and the Justice Department worked out a fair agreement. Microsoft agreed to open the company up to more third parties making available more of its copyrighted code to aid in development of third party programs; Microsoft has agreed to disclosure various interfaces that are internal to Windows' operating system, and have agreed to a three person technical committee to oversee future compliance. This is more than enough.

I urge you to give your support to this agreement and allow this country to get back to business. We desperately need to.

James P. Duggan